

**STAFF MEETING MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 2005
8:30 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Deb Schorr, Vice Chair
Bernie Heier
Bob Workman
Ray Stevens

Commissioners Absent: Larry Hudkins, Chair

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Trish Owen, Chief Deputy County Clerk
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 8:39 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF THE STAFF MEETING MINUTES OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 4, 2005 AND FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2005

MOTION: Heier moved and Stevens seconded approval of the Staff Meeting minutes dated August 4, 2005 and August 5, 2005. Workman, Stevens, Schorr and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

2 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None were stated.

3 WORKERS' COMPENSATION EMERGENCY CARE THROUGH NEBRASKA OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CENTER (NOHC) - Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager; Marlene Walenta, Lancaster Manor

Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager, recommended that the County contract with the Nebraska Occupational Health Center (NOHC), 4451 North 26th Street, for workers' compensation emergency care. She said the Workers' Compensation Policy should also be amended to allow employees to be seen by a doctor or a licensed nurse practitioner.

Stevens suggested that the County also explore whether NOHC could evaluate General Assistance (GA) applicants that claim a physical impairment.

MOTION: Workman moved and Stevens seconded to: 1) Allow Sue Eckley, Workers' Compensation & Risk Management Manager, to provide the details necessary to make the Nebraska Occupational Health Center (NOHC) the provider of choice for workers' compensation emergency care and any other services that the County needs; and 2) Develop an amendment to the Workers' Compensation Policy to allow employees to be seen by a doctor or a licensed nurse practitioner. Heier, Schorr, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

Eckley was asked to give a presentation on the changes at a Management Team Meeting.

4 BOARD OF CORRECTIONS QUARTERLY MEETING - Mike Thurber, Corrections Director

Separate minutes.

5 EXECUTIVE SESSION (PERSONNEL MATTER) - Dean Settle, Community Mental Health Center Director; Tom Fox, Deputy County Attorney

MOTION: Workman moved and Heier seconded to enter Executive Session at 9:29 a.m. for discussion of a personnel matter. Schorr, Stevens, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

Workman exited the meeting.

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to exit Executive Session at 10:24 a.m. Stevens, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Workman was absent from voting. Motion carried.

6 LANCASTER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY AND RURAL FIRE DISTRICT BUDGETS - Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer; Ron Snover, Lancaster County Agricultural Society President; Wayne Heyen, Lancaster County Agricultural Society Treasurer; Wayne Venter, Event Center Managing Director

Wayne Heyen, Lancaster County Agricultural Society Treasurer, presented the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Budget (Exhibit A).

Workman returned to the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Ron Snover, Lancaster County Agricultural Society President, reported on the Lancaster County Fair, noting attendance of more than 60,000 for the five day event and a large increase in small animal and livestock entries. He predicted a shortfall of \$25,000 (the shortfall is subsidized by the Lancaster Event Center) and said consideration will be given to lobbying the Legislature to increase the county fair appropriation.

Workman suggested an entrance fee.

Snover said he would prefer that it remain a free event.

Dave Kroeker, Budget and Fiscal Officer, distributed the following (Exhibits B & C):

- Lancaster County Agricultural Society Summary of Significant Forecast Assumptions
- 2004-2005 General Budget Form Worksheet
- Lancaster County Agricultural Society, Capital Projects for the Fiscal Year Ended November 30, 2006

Stevens said he is not in favor of any appropriation for capital expenditures. He also expressed concern regarding off-premise advertising on the Ag Society's electronic sign.

Brief discussion took place with general consensus to tentatively approve \$110,000 for the Ag Society.

Snover noted that the Planning Department has asked to meet with representatives of the Ag Society on August 26, 2005 and asked that a member of the County Board attend the meeting.

Board consensus was to have the Chair or Vice Chair attend.

Kroeker distributed the following (Exhibit D):

- Lancaster County, Allocation of Levy 2004-05
- Lancaster County, Allocation of Levy 2005-06
- FY05 Tax & Levy Information on Lancaster County Fire Districts (As of 8/24/04 Certified Values)
- FY06 Tax & Levy Information on Lancaster County Fire Districts (As of 8/11/05 Using Estimated Values with a 3.0% Increase)

Kroeker said the Raymond Fire District is the only rural fire district that has a net tax rate above 0.094052. He also reported that the County Assessor will not have final values until August 22nd.

The Board discussed whether to delay adoption of the budget until August 23rd.

7 ACTION ITEMS

- A. Microcomputer Request C#2005-291, Two (2) Laptop Computers, etc., for Human Services, \$4,054.57 from LB 640 Funds

Item held for additional information.

- B. Paycheck Insert for August 25, 2005 (Safety Flyer)

MOTION: Workman moved and Heier seconded approval. Heier, Schorr, Stevens and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

- C. Correction of Clerical Error on Application for Special Designated License for Nebraska State Board of Agriculture (Date of August 26, 2005 instead of August 25, 2005)

MOTION: Heier moved and Stevens seconded to accept the date correction. Schorr, Heier, Workman and Stevens voted aye. Motion carried.

8 ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REPORT

- A. Drug Testing for General Assistance (GA) Clients

MOTION: Stevens moved and Workman seconded to direct Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, to seek a legal opinion regarding mandatory drug testing of General Assistance (GA) applicants. Workman, Stevens, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

- B. Meeting with Senator Hagel

It was noted that Senator Hagel will brief the County Board, Mayor and City Council on transportation issues from 10:45 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on August 17, 2005 in Room 113.

The Board asked staff to invite the County Engineer, County Attorney, Emergency Management Director and County Sheriff to attend the briefing.

MOTION: Workman moved and Heier seconded to direct Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, to give appropriate notice of the meeting. Workman, Stevens, Heier and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

C. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Southeast District Meeting (September 8, 2005)

Workman indicated plans to attend. The Board will discuss attendance and whether to cancel a Staff Meeting scheduled for that date at the August 18, 2005 Staff Meeting.

D. Tri-County Meeting Date

The dates of November 3rd, 10th or 17th were suggested. The University of Nebraska Memorial Stadium Skybox was suggested as a meeting site.

E. Families First & Foremost (F³) Spend-Down

Stevens expressed concern regarding the spend-down of grant funds.

MOTION: Stevens moved to: 1) Strike the staff recognition event from the budget; and 2) Limit contracts with Renee' Dozier, Families First & Foremost (F³) Director, and Jessica Pendleton, C.P.A., for close-out of grant activities and completion of the final comprehensive report to \$18,000 and \$12,000, respectively.

The motion died for the lack of a second.

F. Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) Car Request

Board consensus was to allow a surplus vehicle to be reassigned to the Community Mental Health Center.

G. Claim for Review from Denise Snodgrass Sahele in the Amount of \$38.48

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to handle the claim through the regular claims process at the Tuesday, August 16, 2005 Board of Commissioners Meeting. Heier, Stevens, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

H. Wheel Tax Letter from Village Boards

The Board scheduled a meeting with village representatives on Tuesday, September 13, 2005 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 113.

The Board asked Eagan to check whether \$500,000 allocated in the federal highway bill for the East Beltway will be sent to the City or County and whether it can be used for preliminary engineering.

I. Personnel Policy Board Appointment (Jerry Sellentin)

The Board scheduled the item on the Tuesday, August 16, 2005 Board of Commissioners Meeting agenda.

9 DISCUSSION OF BOARD MEMBER MEETINGS

A. Monthly Meeting of County Board Chair, Vice Chair and Mayor - Schorr, Heier

Schorr said discussion focused on the East Beltway, Arena Task Force and the announcement by Pfizer that it will cut 300 local jobs over the next few years. She also reported that Community Partners will continue to be involved with the Ride for Five Program (low income bus pass program).

B. Officials Committee - Schorr, Heier

Schorr said transportation plans were approved.

C. Arena Task Force - Schorr

Schorr said there was a presentation on the Convention, Sports and Leisure Study.

D. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board - Stevens

No report.

E. Nebraska Association of County Officials (NACO) Board - Workman

Workman reported on the NACO Salary Study and on the National Association of County Officials (NACo) Annual Conference.

F. General Assistance (GA) Monitoring Committee - Stevens, Schorr

Schorr reported a reduction in pharmacy costs.

10 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Stevens moved and Heier seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m. Heier, Stevens, Workman and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

Bruce Medcalf
Lancaster County Clerk